

REMARKS

Claims 6-16 are pending in this application after this amendment. New claim 16 has been presented for consideration. No new matter has been added by the addition of new claim 16. Based on the amendments and remarks made herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

By this amendment, Applicant has amended the claims to more appropriately recite the claimed invention. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejections. Based on the amendments and remarks made herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 6, 7, 9, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakui (USP 5,648,816) in view of Sasson (USP 5,016,107); and rejected claims 8, 10, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakui in view of Sasson and further in view of Watanabe (USP 4,887,161). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Examiner Interview

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner and his Supervisor for the Interview conducted on March 3, 2009. During the Interview, the parties discussed the differences between the claimed invention and the cited art. Specifically, the parties discussed the memory control means and the built-in, non-volatile memory as claimed. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments here are made further to the discussion during the Interview.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

In support of the Examiner's rejection of claim 6, the Examiner asserts that Wakui discloses the memory control means for automatically transferring the image data from said built-in, non-volatile memory to said detachable memory card upon said detecting means detecting said

insertion, citing to col. 11, lines 1-14. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of at least this reference.

However, in an effort to advance prosecution of the present application, and without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, Applicant has amended claim 6 to recite, *inter alia*, memory control means for, upon said detecting means detecting said insertion of the detachable memory card, directly and automatically transferring the image data from said built-in, non-volatile memory to said detachable memory card. As agreed during the Interview, by clarifying that upon detection of insertion of the memory card, the image data is directly and automatically transferred, the outstanding rejection is overcome. It is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejection be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 7-13 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 6 at least based on their dependency on claim 6. It is further respectfully submitted that claims 14 and 15 have been similarly amended and include elements similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 6. As such, claims 14 and 15 are allowable over the art as cited.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet Reg. No. 52,327 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Application No. 09/663,354
Amendment dated March 9, 2009
Reply to Office Action of November 17, 2008

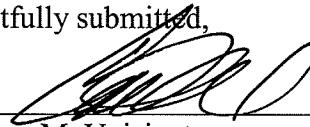
Docket No.: 0879-0273P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 9, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By _____


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